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Analysis of Air Force Estimates of Soviet Airplane Production

REFERENCE: Navy's Evaluation of A-2's Estimates on Aircraft Production in the USSR.

1. With respect to the Reference O/RR is not in a position at the moment to make an independent evaluation of the data. It is my hope, when the proposed Economic Intelligence Committee has been set up, to persuade the other members as a first common task to engage in a joint critical evaluation of the validity, probable range of error, and nature of sources of several key estimates produced by the IAC intelligence agencies. O/RI has been conducting such critical analyses of its own figures for the past few weeks and expects to have samples to offer the other agencies of how to go about this. We rather propose to suggest that A-2's aircraft estimates and O-2's tank estimates be tackled in this fashion. Meanwhile, until such time as we can persuade A-2 to cooperate in such an analysis, it would seem to me unwise for O/RI to attempt a critical evaluation of an estimate which is perfectly clearly within A-2's jurisdiction.

151

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